

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) A process for improving the impact performance of a thermoplastic molding composition comprising mixing polycarbonate resin, ~~manacle~~ nanoclay and carboxylic acid, said nanoclay being present in an amount of 0.1 to 20 percent relative to the weight of the polycarbonate, said acid being present in an amount of 1 to 20 percent relative to the weight of the nanoclay, said nanoclay having an average platelet thickness ranging from 1 to 100 nm, and an average length and average width each independently one of the other ranging from 50 nm to 700 nm, said performance improved in comparison to a corresponding composition that contains no carboxylic acid.

14. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the nanoclay is modified with a member selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salt and quaternary phosphonium salt.

15. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the amount of nanoclay is 0.1 to 15 percent.

16. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the nanoclay is natural montmorillonite.

17. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 14 wherein the quaternary ammonium salt is based on at least one member selected from the group consisting of dimethyl, dihydrogenated tallow with a chloride as a counter anion and dimethyl, hydrogenated tallow, 2-ethylhexyl with methyl sulfate as a counter ion.

18. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the carboxylic acid is aliphatic.

19. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 18, wherein the aliphatic acid is citric acid.

20. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the amount of a carboxylic acid is 5 to 15 percent relative to the weight of the nanoclay.

21. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 13 wherein the amount of a carboxylic acid is 8 to 12 percent relative to the weight of the nanoclay.

22. (Previously presented) The thermoplastic molding composition prepared by the process of Claim 13.

23. (Previously presented) The thermoplastic molding composition prepared by the process of Claim 14.